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ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to histamine and serotonin binding molecules that possess a binding site with the precise molecular configuration that is necessary to confer on the molecule a high affinity for histamine. The invention includes proteins, peptides and chemical compounds that possess this molecular configuration and that are thus able to bind to histamine with high affinity. These molecules may be used in the regulation of the action of histamine or serotonin, the detection and quantification of histamine or serotonin and in the treatment of various diseases and allergies. The molecules may also be used as components of vaccines directed against blood-sucking ectoparasites.